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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

February 25, 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:

7330-7/1700A3

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MAR = 5 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Anthony Beilenson
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Beilenson:

This is in reply to your letter of February 9, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals.

Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

Enc. 2
2 Copies
LST: [initials]

Honorable Anthony Beilenson

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We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituents' concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due May 28, 1993, and Reply Comments are due July 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994. We urge your constituents to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely,



Ralph A. Haller
Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures:
Notice
Order
Discussion paper

cc:
Chief, PRBureau
Chief, LM&MDivison
Docket Files, Room 222
P&P Branch File (Pink)

CNTL NO - 9300571

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Congressional

DUE OBC: 2-23-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
02/12/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300571	02/12/93	02/09/93	02/25/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Congressman	Anthony Beilenson	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
several	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB <i>f.m.m.</i> 5-16-93			
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
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REMARKS:

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The Honorable Anthony Beilenson
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

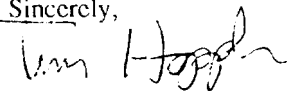
28 Jan, 1993

Dear Mr. Beilenson:

I am writing to you to convey my concern of a recent Notice of Proposed Rule Making docket (PR 92-235) provided to the FCC by Motorola. I am a radio controlled modeler and currently use frequencies in the 72 MHz band for control of my aircraft. I am also an electrical engineer designing paging, digital cellular hardware and telemetry systems. Radio control modeling allows me to share in my technical interests in the form of a hobby, it allows me to fly with my sons and friends. The above mentioned NPRM suggests that public land mobile radio systems can coexist with paging and radio control frequencies using 2.5 KHz spacing, I completely and strongly disagree. First, additional frequencies were allocated in the 150 and 220 MHz bands within the last 2 years for land mobile purposes - who did they displace then ? Were grandfathering clauses implemented to protect the original users ? Secondly, because this is commercial equipment manufactured in high volume, carrier frequencies will drift with aging of the electronics, please try to imagine a modeler controlling a 16 lb. model biplane turning a 20 in. propeller flying in a safe manner - then a land mobile radio user drives by and disrupts the modelers control link - the plane will crash and the land mobile user will continue radio use unknowingly of the deadly interference, someone could be killed.. This scenario is going to happen if the docket is allowed to proceed - 2.5 KHz is not enough spacing with narrowband FM, 1 watt, land mobile transmitters. Finally, in January of 1991 the radio control hobby industry underwent a transition from wideband (40 KHz) radios to narrowband (20 KHz) channel spacing, it was expensive to purchase new radios or get equipment upgraded but the narrowband offered several new frequencies to a crowded and channel-starved user group. The radio control industry has made its contribution to society in the form of technical education including composite materials, glow, gas and electric locomotion of aircraft, telemetry, military drone technology and more: all of these fields directly impact our youth. My interest in the hobby began over 24 years ago and I am only 33 yrs old ! I flew model rockets because the technology fascinated me, I ended up in engineering and am contributing to a better world by improving communications - all of this because I let my interests flourish to guide my career.

Please consider carefully this subject and all of its ramifications for safety, enjoyment of several hundred thousand modellers and the technical education of our children. Ask the FCC to disallow this dangerous and unnecessary proposal.

Sincerely,



Tim Hopple
163 N. Castilian Ave
Thousand Oaks, Ca. 91320
(805) 498-9448

January 27, 1993

The Honorable Anthony Beilenson
1025 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Beilenson:

I am a retired police officer, living on a disability pension, and the money I spend on my hobby is hard to come by. I have been building and flying model aircraft for fifty years, and radio controlled airplanes for the last thirty years. I derive many hours of pleasure and satisfaction from building and flying my planes. I am active in a local club, the Channel Islands Condors, which boasts over 200 members who share my interest in building and flying model aircraft. At the present time, I have five radio systems, and six functioning aircraft. I have a lot of money invested in those radios and aircraft, and in the engines, tools, chargers, field accessories, and other products necessary to support my hobby.

I am very concerned about the proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for R/C model use and will increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

The Notice of Propose Rule Making in PR Docket 92-235 replaces Part 90 of the rules with a new Part 88. Part 90 allows for safe use of R/C aircraft and surface models by keeping 10 Khz spacing between fixed commercial users and frequencies used by R/C enthusiasts. The new Part 88 will allow mobile users on frequencies within 2.5 Khz of frequencies available to us, eliminating safe use of at least 31 of the 50 channels on the 72 MHz band and 10 of the 30 frequencies on the 75 MHz band now used by hobbyists. In fact, more channels will likely be affected.

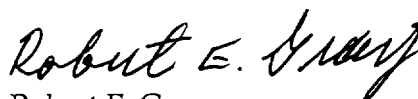
When I fly my radio controlled models, I take great pains to fly safely, and to assure the safety of spectators and property in the area where I fly. Many of my precautions depend on the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is reduced as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will be severely congested, and the margin of safety will be seriously reduced.

I don't think it is wise of the FCC to seek to expand the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radio, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. We hobbyists support a large

and growing industry, which provides jobs for thousands of people. The hobby itself provides many hours of enjoyment and relaxation to hundreds of thousands of people like myself, and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposal PR 92-235 for the 72-76 MHz band. We all need your help urgently because the FCC has a deadline of February 26, 1993 after which it may become more difficult to keep these proposals from going into effect.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert E. Gray". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and address.

Robert E. Gray
2700 Kelp Street
Oxnard, CA 93035

1-27-93

The Honorable Anthony Beilenson
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

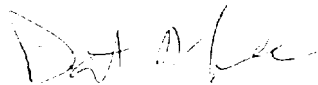
Dear Mr Beilenson:

I am contacting you in regards to a proposed FCC rule change now being considered: PR Docket 92-235.

This proposal would have an extremely negative effect on my family's hobby activities. Three generations of Gees operate model aircraft, boats, and cars. We are active members of a local club, and own many pieces of radio control equipment that would be rendered useless if the changes are made. The proposal would place radio frequencies so close as to make interference a continual hazard.

I have flown models for many years, at various public and private sites, and derived much pleasure from this harmless activity. The rule changes now under consideration would severely disrupt that, and cripple a thriving industry when we need such things most. Please see that this plan is laid to rest.

Sincerely,



David R. Gee

16738 Saticoy st. #1

Van Nuys, CA 91406

5733 Green Meadow Dr.
Agoura Hills, CA 91301
January 27, 1992

The Honorable Anthony Beilenson
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Beilenson:

I am writing in regard to FCC NPRM-PR Docket 92-235 to restructure the FCC Land Mobile Service frequencies.

This proposal would insert two Land Mobile Service channels between the existing channels used for Model control. I am a retired registered professional engineer and I believe that this could seriously compromise the control of model aircraft which in turn will place valuable property at risk and pose a safety hazard to humans.

Model aircraft flyers attempt to seek sites which do not have known radio interference. This is not easily done because locations where models may be flown without risk or noise to neighbors are becoming extremely scarce. Add to that the problem of radio interference and the siting of model fields becomes even more difficult.

Now the FCC has decided to insert two additional frequency channels between the existing model control channels for use of Mobile Land Service. The transmitters used in this service are approximately four times as powerful as those used on model aircraft. Even if the transmitter is tuned within the correct specifications, this extra power when in the vicinity of a model using an adjacent frequency could cause the Mobile Land Service user to "capture" the model control receiver and cause it to fly out of control. Because the use proposed is mobile, the model flyer has no way to know whether or not a mobile user has penetrated his receiver's capture range.

Losing control of the model can have several severe consequences. The least and most probable result is that the model, which may cost in the neighborhood of \$1,000 and has taken many hours to construct, may be destroyed. If the model does not strike a person or other valuable property, the owner can consider himself or herself lucky. However, the danger always exists that the crash will involve a person and if the aircraft is heavy (could be up to 40 pounds) and/or is travelling very fast, you can imagine the injury that could result.

Most modelers are aware of these possibilities and take care to fly away from people and property. They establish and promote disciplined flying and they carry insurance for the one in a million chance of causing real damage. Is it prudent for the government to take an action which will increase this risk? I think not, and I hope that you agree with me and will use your influence to keep this valuable hobby viable and safe.

Besides being a retired engineer, I am also a retired Air Force pilot. Prior to World War II, I built model airplanes, as did a number of those in my pilot training class. In my experience I have found that this hobby attracts the youth of our country. It gives them a constructive use of their time and can influence them very positively toward a career in the military, the airlines or science and engineering. All of these pursuits have great value to the country. Even if they are not so motivated, I know that youth engaged in this activity are not those that gravitate to gangs and other forms of crime. The action the TOC proposes tends to denigrate the whole model aircraft movement and may be a factor in a future increase in juvenile problems. This is another reason I believe you should help to direct the TOC to seek another solution to their frequency allocation plan.

Thank you for hearing another side to the question. Best wishes for your new term in the House.

Sincerely yours,



Keith R. Smith, Jr., P.E.
Major USAF (Ret.)

The Honorable Anthony Beilenson
United States House of Representatives
Washington DC 20515

Dear Mr. Beilenson

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Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by
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for the 72-76 Mhz band. We need your help now on this matter as
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very difficult to avoid having these proposals going into affect.

Sincerely,

Kimberlee J. Halbreath
Newbury Park, CA

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The Honorable Anthony Beilenson
United States House of Representatives
Washington DC 20515

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Sincerely,

Edward R. Berg

The Honorable Anthony Beilenson
United States House of Representatives
Washington DC 20515

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Sincerely,

Michael J. Gault

The Honorable Anthony Beilenson
200 N. Westlake Blvd.
Suite 211
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

RECEIVED

JAN 28 1993

BEILENSEN T.O.

January 25, 1993

Dear Mr. Beilenson:

I have been interested in aviation for some time now. To pursue my interests I took up the hobby of radio controlled model aircraft construction and flying. I belong to the local R/C modelers club and own several model aircraft and radios. Due to the expense of this hobby I have a substantial financial investment in model aircraft, kits, engines and tools.

I am very concerned about the proposed rule that is currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted the new rule will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for R/C model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability.

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I don't think it is wise of the FCC to seek to expand the operation conditions of mobile radio users at the expense of the radio-control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radio, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. It is a sizeable industry that must be saved from these detrimental FCC actions. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to hundreds of thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

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The Honorable Anthony Beilenson
United States House of Representatives
Washington DC 20515

RECEIVED
FEB 15 1993

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